Canadian Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

Vol. 11, No. 16 TORONTO, APRIL 17, 1946 $2.00 Per Annum

# Construction O-in-C Panned

## Some City Councils Don't Like Priority Responsibility

The Order-in-Council which gives municipalities the right to issue building permits according to their own system of priorities is being criticized by civic legislators and some newspapers as requiring immediate clarification.

Suggesting that Ottawa is avoiding responsibility for the housing shortage, critics maintain that priority regulations uniformly applicable should have been set up, as well as effective methods of equitable distribution of building materials.

It is claimed that the effect of the present order will cause competition between municipalities for businesses whose owners

(Continued on Page 3)

## No 'Planet Preem' Slated In Canada

There will be no Canadian showing Planet 16 mm. productions in Canadian 35 mm. theatres, as is being done in the USA at present, states S. C. Atkinson, president of General Films Limited. The company has a five-year exclusive franchise from Planet

(Continued on Page 4)

## Plottel Now Mono Asst. Gen. Mgr.

**Joe Plottel, long-time distribution executive in the Canadian motion picture industry, has been appointed assistant general manager of Monogram, it has been announced by O. R. Hanson, general manager.**

**In March Plottel became manager of the Toronto branch, a post he will retain, and since then the scope of his activity has been broadening until it was decided to delegate greater authority to him.**

**He was one of Warners top Dominion executives until his resignation last year.**

## Goldin Now With Gaumont Kalee

Latest addition to the staff of Gaumont Kalee, Limited, is Hy Goldin, who resigned as Ontario district service manager of Dominion Sound to join the Canadian wing of G. B.-Kalee, Limited, British theatre and equipment supply house controlled by J.

(Continued on Page 3)

## Buckspan Manages

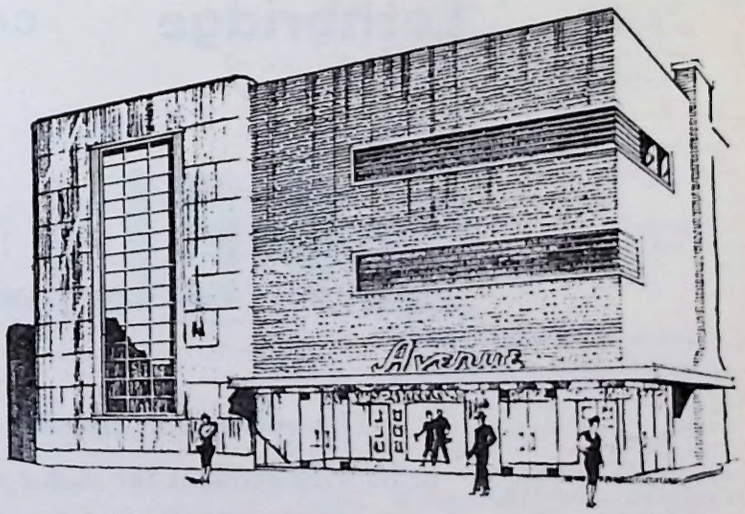
David Buckspan has been appointed manager of the Royal, Bowmanville, by Theatre Amusements Company.

## Odeon Buying Absorbed By GK

Gaumont Kalee, Limited, Dominion wing of G.B.-Kalee, British theatre equipment and supply house, will absorb the purchasing department of Odeon Theatres of Canada, it was revealed by O. R. Hanson, chief officer of the new firm, shortly after his return

(Continued on Page 4)

## *Theatre For Westmount*




**This sketch from Luke & Little, one of Canada's busiest sources of theatre architecture, shows the new theatre planned for Green Avenue, Westmount, Montreal district. The house, the Avenue, will cost $150,000 and seat 1,152, including 204 in the balcony. It will contain a soda bar. William Lester of United Amusements is behind its construction, according to reports.**

# Bragg Not Resigning Says Earl Lawson

Reports, printed elsewhere, of the resignation of Tom J. Bragg from Odeon Theatres of Canada are false, nor is such a step even being considered, says the Honorable J. Earl Lawson, president of that company. Besides being vice-president of Odeon Theatres, Bragg is president of General Theatre Corporation Limited and vice-president of General Theatre Investment Corporation Limited.

It is thought rumors of the sale of Paul Nathanson's holdings, circulating verbally and in print, and Bragg's present absence from his office are responsible. The latter has always been

(Continued on Page 3)

## Proudlove Switched

Jack Proudlove has been transferred from the Gaiety, Winnipeg, to the management of the Capitol, Regina. Frank Willis, whom he succeeded, goes to the Gaiety. They're Famous Players houses.

## 'Utopia' Dynamite

Paramount's Crosby-Hope starrer, "Road to Utopia," broke the every day record to hang up a weekly record far above past ones. They're lined up day and night outside of Shea's, Toronto, where the records are being broken.

## Hope Gets Award

Bob Hope has been awarded the Order of the Purple Heart for his services overseas.

## Ed Connors Upped

Formerly assistant manager of the Savoy, Glace Bay, Nova Scotia, Edgar Connors has succeeded Al Smith as manager. Smith will work elsewhere for FPCC.

## Korda And Grant

Sir Alexander Korda and Cary Grant have formed a partnership deal for the production of films in Britain and America during the next year.

**Night In Paradise** Producer Walter Wanger surpasses his best with this golden entertainment triumph featuring Merle Oberon and Turhan Bey. It has stars, beauty, top production values and fabulous Technicolor. Date it early from EMPIRE-UNIVERSAL FILMS, LIMITED and share this BO bonansa.

# *A Record-Breaking Attraction Deserves Extra Playing Time!*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Toronto** | **LOEW'S** | **4 Weeks** |
| **Montreal** | **LOEW'S** | **3 Weeks** |
| **Ottawa** | **ELGIN** | **3 Weeks** |
| **Windsor** | **VANITY** | **3 Weeks** |
| **Regina** | **REX** | **3 Weeks** |
| **London** | **LOEW'S** | **2 Weeks** |
| **Quebec** | **EMPIRE** | **2 Weeks** |
| **Sydney** | **STRAND** | **9 Days** |
| **Kitchener** | **CENTURY** | **9 Days** |
| **Sudbury** | **REGENT** | **6 Days** |
| **Lethbridge** | **CAPITOL** | **5 Days** |

The outstanding boxoffice sensation of the season . . . now in its 23rd week at the Astor theatre, New York . . . exceeding in many situations the business done by 'Since You Went Away' . . . held over AND OVER in big cities and small cities . . . here truly is the picture that DEMANDS EXTENDED PLAY-DATES. Of course it's released through—

## *United Artists Corporation Ltd.*

277 VICTORIA ST. - TORONTO, ONT.

96 Union St.
St. John, N.B.

5975 Monkland Ave.
Montreal, Que.

289 Colony St.
Winnipeg, Man.

708—8th Ave. W.
Calgary, Alta.

1206 Burrard St.
Vancouver, B.C.

HY GOLDIN

# Goldin Joins Kalee Technical Dept.

(Continued from Page 1)

Arthur Rank. In charge of sound, acoustics and other technical activities, Goldin will be under E. L. (Ed) Harris, assistant to O. R. Hanson, general manager.

Goldin, recognized in and out of the motion picture industry as one of the Dominion's top men in acoustical application and research, started in radio in Montreal during 1923 and in 1929 came to the Northern Electric Company as service and installation engineer. In 1930 he was made Montreal district suporvisor, becoming shortly after eastern division service supervisor, then Montreal district operating supervisor.

When Dominion Sound was formed by Northern Electric in 1935 Goldin was transferred to it and in 1939 was sent to Toronto as district service manager in charge of technical activities. He returned recently to full-time duties, having served Victory Aircraft, Limited, Malton, Ontario on loan as resident engineer on a part-time basis from November, 1942, to March, 1944.

In Malton Goldin assisted in the engineering of the radio communication system of Lancaster bombers, his work having made posible a sectionalized radio system that saved thousand of man-hours. From an acoustical point of view he has cooperated in the design of many Canadian theatres and some broadcasting studios. Last year he worked with Jay I. English when the latter was designing the Queensway Studios. The broadcasting studio at the Rehabilitation Centre in Toronto represents in part Goldin's work.

A writer and lecturer on acoustical subjects, Goldin is the representative of the motion picture industry on the Canadian Radio Technical Planning Board an advisory body to the Dominion Government which concerns itself with possible changes in the allocation of wave lengths due to the coming of television and frequency modulation.

In December, 1945, he read a paper before the London, Ontario section of the Institute of Radio Engineers entitled "Some Factors Involved in Sound Reproduction," in which he discussed the fundamentals of physiological, psychological and architectural acoustics. Later he lectured on the same subject before the Toronto section of the same Institute at the University of Toronto.

During the London lecture a demonstration was staged with the help of members of the Department of Physics and the dramatic group of the University of Western Ontario. This demonstration of the principles of auditory perspective, to common knowledge, was the first of its kind in Canada.

Articles by him on television, sound and acoustics have been printed by a number of technical magazines. Maintaining an unfailing interest in his work, to expand his knowledge he took physics and mathematics at Sir George Williams College, Montreal, and attended a special evening course in undergraduate mathematics at the University of Toronto.

For almost 20 years he has been a member of the Institute of Radio Engineers, an international organization, and of the Acoustical Society of America almost since its inception 16 years ago. He is also an associate member of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers.

On the personal side Goldin has a marked popularity in the trade and all who know him will wish him well in his new position.

# Building Order Gets Panning

(Continued from Page 1)

have building plans. Each city has townships on its fringes and several towns within a radius of 20 miles. In the past, by providing cheap land and low taxes, such communities have attracted industries also sought by cities.

Councillors of larger cities now hesitate to exercise their right to establish building priorities in favor of what they consider essential, such as housing and certain types of businesses, fearing that adjacent townships and towns, with eyes on the future, may welcome the industries refused permits by them.

Many smaller communities do not have housing problems but are worried about employment and growth. They would welcome industries and theatres.

Among the leading critics of the Order-in-Council is the Toronto Board of Control, which voted four-to-one to ask Ottawa for clarification.

The body refused to apply the requests for Order-in-Council as it stands. The city has permits for six theatres, one of which, stopped by the order, will now proceed.

## Fox To Build Studio In United Kingdom

A large modern studio to cost £800,000 will be built near London by 20th Century-Fox, Spyros P. Skouras announces. The new plant will have six sound stages and an administration building and six to eight features will be produced annually.

## SMPE Meets In NY

Society of Motion Picture Engineers will hold its 59th semi-annual technical conference in New York's Hotel Pennsylvania on May 6.

## Plaza, Vcr., Robbed

Thieves cracked the strongbox of the Plaza, Vancouver Odeon house, and got away with $1,000.


## Can We Merge?

**Exhibitor operating profitable theatres wishes to contact another exhibitor in a similar position with a view to joint partnership operation.**

Box No. 17
CANADIAN FILM WEEKLY


# Report of Bragg Quitting False

(Continued from Page 1)

one of the mainstays of the Nathanson enterprises, both during the leadership of Paul and his late father, and Paul's withdrawal from the presidency due to illness caused conjectures as to Bragg's intentions.

The General Theatre Corporation president has been quite ill for the past few weeks and it will be a while longer before he returns. The major responsibility for Paul Nathanson's companies fell to him during the long illness of the former and placed a strain on his health.

This led to promotions and realignment of duties among officials of the companies, among them George Beeston and George Peters, the purpose being to relieve Bragg of many of the duties assumed by him in addition to his usual ones.

As for the sale of Paul Nathanson's share of Odeon Theatres, in which company he is a partner with J. Arthur Rank, the Hon. Earl Lawson said: "We can't stop anyone from repeating rumors. I have no statement to make with respect to any part of Odeon Theatres being sold or not sold." His attitude was that nothing which has been rumored merited the attention necessary to confirm or deny it.

In answer to another question he stated that there would be no public issue of Odeon Theatres stock soon, nor was it being anticipated.

## Reelect Herb Yates

Herbert J. Yates, president, and James R. Grainger, executive vice-president, and all other officers of the board of Republic were reelected at the New York meeting.

## Experiment Backed By MPAA For 16 Mm.

Eric Johnston has announced that the Motion Picture Producers Association will spend $100,000 for the production of seven 16 mm. educational films along experimental lines, the results to be made available to all interested.

Aim is to improve physical state of the films, as well as to wrok out means of heightening interest in their points through use of more human interests.


Film Weekly

Vol. 11, No. 16 April 17, 1946

HYE BOSSIN, Managing Editor

Address all communications—The Managing Editor, Canadian Film Weekly, 25 Dundas Square, Toronto, Canada.

Published by Film Publications of Canada Ltd., 25 Dundas Square, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Phone ADelaide 4317. Price 5 cents each or $2.00 per year.

Entered as Second Class Matter.



## BUY OR LEASE

**Returned man wants 800-seat theatre in Ontario. Will make good deal for right house.**

BOX 10
CANADIAN FILM WEEKLY

# Odeon Buying Absorbed By GK

(Continued from Page 1)

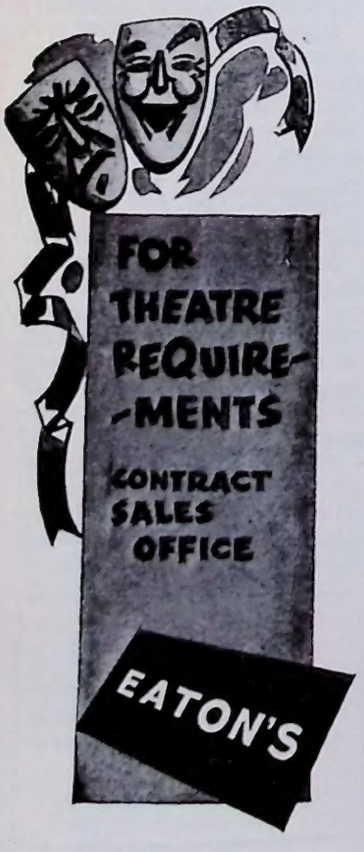
from the United Kingdom, where he and Ed Harris conferred with home office officials. Transfer of the purchasing department in no way affects the maintenance department of Canada's second largest theatre chain.

Hanson and Harris spent considerable time in London becoming acquainted with their British colleagues, examining equipment in the light of the Dominion's needs for the coming building boom, and discussing policy. Hanson and Harris were presented with the newest in binoculars, one of G.B.-Kalee's lines, prior to their departure for home by E. F. Lyons, joint managing director.

A full line of British-made equipment, including theatre chairs, will be handled.

The company expects to be in its new quarters by May 31st, location of which will be made public later. Present offices are at 431 Yonge Street, Toronto.

As a result of Hanson's visit, it is likely that Hanson 16 mm. will be expanded. He met with Ian Javal of G.B. Instructional Films and distribution of that company's list of films in Canada's rapidly growing field of visual education is anticipated. Under consideration also is the Gebescope, a 16 mm. projector, which may be sold by Gaumont Kalee in the Dominion.



## Typodermic Injections

Jack Melzer of the King's Playhouse caught a couple of youngsters taking seats apart with a wrench and plyers. He let them go because they were nice enough to practise on broken seats. Jack says he'll start a movement to cancel manual training classes in schools as contributors to juvenile delinquency. . . . Johnny Poole of Paramount Posters got a letter from Sudbury, Sussex, England with a request from J. W. Rayner for his booking calendar. Rayner read about it in Film Weekly. . . . Now that we have the atom bomb, will someone invent something that will take the shine out of a blue serge suit? . . . Iz Shapero, Columbia booker and brother of Warners' Sammy, has left to become office manager for Harry Pullen Company. Sammy is back on the job after a long illness . . . Ray Hague of I. T. & T. just bought a 100-acre farm at Scarborough and he'll go rural and urban at the same time . . . Howard Stephenson, Charlie's boy, was in Honolulu during the tidal wave. He was there with a USO unit . . . Gene Fitzgibbons is studying law at Columbia University . . . Noticed the other evening that the hatpin holders are still on the backs of the Victoria seats. Remember when you could get a Tobler chocolate roll by putting a dime in the gadget on the back of each seat. After a while the kids found out how to get their dimes back . . . Roly Young: Snitch-cat! How is your assistant reviewer Var. these days? By the way, did you read Fletcher Markle's "review of reviewers" in "Reading"?

* * *

## This Idea Deserves Support

**Oscar Hanson, who had been sending parcels of hard-to-get items to friends in the British Isles, didn't realize how important his efforts were until he got over there recently.**

**The British are not near starvation or anything like that but eating is no longer the adventure it used to be and still is on this side. Then there is the lack of handkerchiefs, washcloths, etc.**

**So Oscar not only redoubled his own efforts but now the Monogram staff has "adopted" the British Mono gang and is sending them parcels. The idea is spreading, with various departments shopping for stuff and presenting it to British folk who perform the same tasks.**

**The idea has spread to other companies, among them Odeon, and is growing in popularity. Regular schedules of shipments are being worked out by those who feel better spiritually for making Old Country comrades feel better physically.**

**You can take it from there.**

* * *

## People Come And People Go . . .

They say that E. P. Taylor, the tycoon, has money in one of the local studios which began production recently . . . Jeff Hurley, Noel Bates and Lionel Reed, ex-NFB men, are operating International Graphics, a film slide outfit . . . Shea's will be torn down when the planned Civic Square gets under way. The city will ask that the old buildings facing it be torn down so that some more pleasing to the eye can take their places. So why not get rid of the unpleasing pile that passes for the City Hall while they're at it? . . . Incidentally, the Island airport is for sale, a monument to the greatest civic blunder Toronto legislators ever committed. They ruined the semi-paradise that was Hanlan's Point to put it there and then found it was useless. They oughtn't go unpunished for such brainless destruction . . . It isn't nice the way Syd Samson needled everyone here by sending postcards from Hot Springs, where he was seeing to the loll in his life . . . The former Nathanson Committee, which looked after the lads while they were overseas, are grateful to Ben Cronk for the grand honor roll he got up for them, copies of which are on display in several places. Ben, a handy fellow with the brushes whose work is cherished by many, gave of his time and talent in his usual unstinting fashion and the boys and girls want him to know that they are grateful.

# No 'Planet Preem' Slated In Canada

(Continued from Page 1)

Pictures for the rental of its product in the Dominion, with complete control of all policies relating to distribution and exhibition.

Recently Planet's world premiere of its color feature at the Marcal Theatre, Hollywood, attracted much attention, it being the first time in the history of the film industry that a complete 16 mm. program was projected on a standard-sized screen for a theatre audience.

General Films distributes RKO and Paramount 16 mm. versions in the Dominion and during the meeting of the motion picture branch of the Toronto board of trade encroachment on 35 mm. territory was discussed. Some members felt that asking for restrictions, if needed, against Independent 16 mm. product from companies which also handle films from major studios would be going too far. Adherence to the ten-mile limit where major product is concerned was considered good enough.

However, Atkinson intends to distribute Planet product in such a way that it will not compete commercially with 35 mm. theatres. Photographed in 16 mm. as distinct from others of that size which are reduced versions of 35 mm. productions, Planet pictures are aimed at the institutional field, all sex angles, drinking scenes, etc., being eliminated.

"We believe in a policy of live and let live and feel that both the 16 and 35 mm. branches of the industry can live together in harmony," states Atkinson. "Sixteen mm. exhibitors are making thousands of people motion-picture conscious who formerly attended the theatre on rare occasions only. Sixteen mm. is doing a public relations and promotional job for the 35 mm. theatres that is of very great value even though sometimes not appreciated by the theatre operators who occasionally fail to see beyond their own marquees. Many locations that originally opened up in 16 mm. now have 35 mm. theatres."

During the meeting of the newly organized American Theatres Association in St. Louis, Missouri, at which 4,000 USA exhibitors were represented, a suggestion that 16 mm. theatrical exhibition be classified as unfair competition did not get beyond the resolutions committee.

## Douglas and Russell

Melvyn Douglas, out of the army, will co-star with Rosalind Russell in "My Empty Heart." His contract is shared jointly by Columbia and Metro.

*THE PANTHER GIRL*
By famed artist George Petty for M-G-M's
"ZIEGFELD FOLLIES OF 1946" in Technicolor

# SEEING STARS...

There is no treat more enjoyable to the public than seeing so many top stars in one glamorous production. A feast of entertainment indeed as these brilliant talents perform for your patrons in the most extraordinary show since films began

M-G-M's

## ZIEGFELD FOLLIES OF 1946

*in Technicolor*

starring **FRED ASTAIRE · LUCILLE BALL · LUCILLE BREMER**
**FANNY BRICE · JUDY GARLAND · KATHRYN GRAYSON**
**LENA HORNE · GENE KELLY · JAMES MELTON**
**VICTOR MOORE · RED SKELTON · ESTHER WILLIAMS**
and **WILLIAM POWELL**

with

EDWARD ARNOLD · MARION BELL · BUNIN'S PUPPETS · CYD CHARISSE · HUME CRONYN
WILLIAM FRAWLEY · ROBERT LEWIS · VIRGINIA O'BRIEN · KEENAN WYNN

A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE · DIRECTED BY VINCENTE MINNELLI · PRODUCED BY ARTHUR FREED

LITHO

THE PICK OF THE PICTURES

Canadian Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

REVIEWS INFORMATION RATINGS

Vol. 11, No. 16 REVIEWS FROM FILM DAILY, NEW YORK $2.00 Per Annum

# The Madonna's Secret

with Francis Lederer, Ann Rutherford, Gail Patrick

Republic 79 Mins.

INTRIGUING PSYCHOLOGICAL DRAMA SPUN WITH AN INTERESTING CAST AND GOOD PRODUCTION.

Chalk up an unusual bit of screen fare funneled from an original screenplay by Bradbury Foote and William Thiele; the latter handling the director's chore as well.

The film could have emerged as a real "sleeper" if the sequences were bridged with closer editing to prevent any faulty jar of continuity. Nevertheless, there is much to enjoy in "The Madonna's Secret." The cast is both mature and bright; and the element of surprise as a climax to who was responsible for the murders committed is refreshing.

**Francis Lederer's charming voice and manner adds much to his role as a painter who suffers from the illusion that he may be unconsciously committing murders on his models. After a series of incidents which seemingly point an accusing finger in his direction, Lederer's mother, Leona Roberts, is caught as she is about to do away with his latest model, Ann Rutherford. The reason being that she was selfish to the point of not wanting to share her son's fame with any of the models he was apt to fall in love with.**

Ann Rutherford turns in a notably good performance in posing as a model to avenge her sister's death. Gail Patrick is beautiful and well cast as the wealthy widow who also finds a desire to pose for Lederer. Edward Ashley's ability in this one should make the producers sit up and take notice in considering him for more potent roles.

CAST: Francis Lederer, Gail Patrick, Ann Rutherford, Edward Ashley, Linda Stirling, John Litel, Leona Roberts, Michael Hawks, Clifford Brooke, Pierre Watkin, Will Wright, Geraldine Wall, John Hamilton.

CREDITS: Associate Producer, Stephen Auer; Director, William Thiele; Cameraman, John Alton; Original Screenplay, Bradbury Foote.

DIRECTION, Good. PHOTOGRAPHY, Okay.

## Rank Now Partner In Aussie Chain

The deal whereby J. Arthur Rank acquired a partnership in the production, distribution, exhibition and service activities of Greater Union Theatres of Australia called for $5000,000 from him.

# Meet Me On Broadway

with Marjorie Reynolds, Fred Brady, Jinx Falkenburg

Columbia 78 Mins.

A LIVE "SLEEPER" FOR SWELL ENTERTAINMENT: MERITS TOP FEATURE EFFORT FOR DESERVING BO GROSSES.

Exhibitors everywhere will do wisely to get behind this one. The cast is bright and fresh and delivers the crispy dialogue and musical numbers in top-notch fashion.

Leigh Jason's direction captures the youth, spirit and entertainment values written into the George Bricker-Jack Henley musical screenplay. However, much credit is due the co-stars of the film and Allen Jenkins, in his comedy role, for giving the film pace and warmth. Spring Byington is delightful with an intimate song routine to inject a nostalgic note of former vaudeville days at the Palace.

**The story deals with ambitious Brady who angles for a break on Broadway as a producer. His girl friend performer, Reynolds, wants him to give up the effort and get a regular job. Brady gets a request to put on a charity show at a country club, and feigns a job as manager of the club in order to bring Reynolds and songwriter Jenkins out to the place to help him put the show on.**

Brady selects Jinx Falkenburg from the surrounding home talent to fill in a spot in the show and plans to induce her father, Gene Lockhart, to sponsor Jinx in a real Broadway production.

A few jealous words from Reynolds has Brady throwing the direction in her lap and walking out on the deal. Byington induces Brady to return and finish the important charity affair. Brady, believing that Reynolds is in love with Byington's wealthy son, Loren Tindall, leaves to catch a train immediately after the affair, but Reynolds stops him and encourages him to go after Lockhart and pursue his theatre career.

CAST: Marjorie Reynolds, Fred Brady, Jinx Falkenburg, Loren Tindall, Spring Byington, Gene Lockhart, Allen Jenkins, William Forrest, Jack Rice.

CREDITS: Producer, Burt Kelly; Director, Leigh Jason; Story, George Bricker; Screenplay, George Bricker and Jack Henley; Assistant Director, Jame Nicholson.

DIRECTION, Very Good. PHOTOGRAPHY, Okay.

# The Bells of St. Mary's

with Bing Crosby, Ingrid Bergman

RKO-Rainbow 126 Mins.

McCAREY TURNS OUT ANOTHER PIC BIDDING FOR TOP HONORS; CROSBY, BERGMAN BO COMBO.

Leo McCarey has scored again with a film that is one of the high points of the year. Once more he has brought his talents to a sentimental comedy so well balanced that one cannot help but respond to its appeal with lavish enthusiasm. Done in the spirit of "Going My Way," "The Bells of St. Mary's" matches that other McCarey masterpiece as entertainment in every respect, and it should prove no less of a boxoffice triumph.

The picture seems far shorter than its 126 minutes. That is its supreme test as entertainment. The film is so generously stocked with material of universal appeal that no audience can conceivably fail to relish every second of this precious offering. The production is amply blessed with all the qualities that made "Going My Way" such a staggering success. Human, warm, heart-gripping, tender, the picture covers a wide emotional range in relating its story of a parochial school in search of better times. The tale is often moving to the point of tears.

**McCarey has produced and directed the film brilliantly. The production details are notable, to say the least, while the direction has feeling and intelligence and gets the most out of every scene. Under McCarey's guidance some of the sequences become truly priceless.**

In the top roles the film has the combination of Bing Crosby and Ingrid Bergman. That alone has the makings of a boxoffice whiz-bang. And neither of the two has ever shown to finer advantage. Crosby repeats the role of the priest which he played in "Going My Way." This time he helps a parochial school out of a financial jam.

Crosby and Miss Bergman have a superlative supporting cast. The former has a number of chances to sing.

CAST: Bing Crosby, Ingrid Bergman, Henry Travers, William Gargan, Ruth Donnelly, Joan Carroll, Martha Sleeper, Rhys Williams, Dickie Tyler, Una O'Connor.

CREDITS: Producer, Leo McCarey; Director, Leo McCarey; Screenplay, Dudley Nichols.

DIRECTION, Tops. PHOTOGRAPHY, Fine.

# Adventure

with Clark Gable, Greer Garson

MGM 125 Mins.

GABLE RETURNS OPPOSITE GARSON IN VIRILE PRODUCTION CERTAIN TO MOP UP AT BOX OFFICE DESPITE EFFECTS.

That "Adventure" will clean up ta the boxoffice cannot be argued against. The reason for this prediction is self-evident. Not only does the film celebrate the return of Clark Gable to the screen after an absence of three years, but it teams him with Greer Garson, a star who by herself is a potent drawing card. To combine the two stars means doubly indemnifying the exhibitor who plays the film.

The strength of "Adventure" as an attraction iles chiefly in the lure exercised by the Gable and Garson names. While there is no question that the picture will bring a rush to the ticket window the production frankly is an undistinguished affair with an extremely ordinary story. The film is not one to bring Gable back in a blaze of glory although it does give him an opportunity to work his he-man appeal to the limit in a virile, two-fisted role that will make his admirers rejoice. Quality definitely was not the goal in this instance.

**The yarn is the old one about the rough guy and the nice gal who seemingly have nothing in common and are constantly at odds only to wind up very much in love with each other. Miss Garson, a librarian, is the girl in this case. She and Gable call it quits after but three days of married life, but the two are back in each other's arms for keeps when our hero undergoes a change of heart. A baby arrives at the right moment to help cement the union.**

The direction of Victor Fleming is generally competent although he allows Gable to overdo it a bit as a blustering and extremely vocal seafarer. Miss Garson is her usual assured self as his top romantic interest. Joan Blondell adds to the fireworks as a pal of Miss Garson who mementarily captures Gable's fancy. As a member of Gable's crew, Thomas iMtchell is a big help to the film.

CAST: Clark Gable, Greer Garson, Joan Blondell, Thomas Mitchell, Tom Tully, John Qualen, Richard Haydn, Lina Romay, Philip Merivale, Harry Davenport, Tito Renaldo.

CREDITS: Producer, Sam Zimbalist; Director, Victor Fleming; Screenplay, Frederick Hazlitt Brennan, Vincent Lawrence.

DIRECTION, Good. PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

# USA Exhibs Form New Association

American exhibitors convened in St. Louis, Missouri, recently and organized the American Theatres Association, incorporating in it the Theatres Activities Committee, which had been functioning temporarily since last December following the lapse into inactivity of the War Activities Committee. President Truman wired his blessings.

Specific objects of the ATA are (a) public relations and (b) industry welfare.

From 4,000 to 6,000 of the USA's 16,000 exhibitors were represented, although such organizations as the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America and the Allied States Association of Motion Picture Exhibitors are among the trade bodies not yet hooked up.

Si Fabian, active in industry activities during the war, was elected president and Charles P. Skouras and William Skirball first and second vice-presidents respectively. Ted Gamble is chairman of the board and Arthur Mayer will head public relations.

Although the delegates expressed opposition to the showing of fact films of a controversial nature and favored regulating their exhibition, a resolution stated in part that the exhibitors recognize "an obligation and privilege to use this medium (the screen) of expression for the purpose of disseminating informaition of public interest and value, where such interest is of sufficient importance to warrant such exhibition and is presented in such a manner as to fit into such a program designed primarily for entertainment."

Organization of the TAC is regarded as an unprecedented step in bringing circuits and small exhibitors together to increase the industry's prestige in the public mind, to settle internal differences as a means of resisting pressure groups and further industry welfare.

With harmony in mind, the new constitution provides that a majority of the ATA's directors be Independents, with one director representing every million in each state.

Headquarters will be in New York City.

**WANTED**

***TO LEASE OR BUY***

**Theater not less than 300 seats. Good locality. 25 years experience in business.**

BOX No. 15
CANADIAN FILM WEEKLY

## *Lady Takes A Holiday*

One of the outstanding space-winning stunts in a long time was that in connection with MGM's "Vacation From Marriage." A New York trip was the prize to housewife who wrote the best letter on the subject, "Why I Want a Vacation from Marriage." All travelling, hotel, entertainment and incidental expenses were paid by MGM and the Uptown Theatre, Toronto, where "Vacation from Marriage" was playing.

Judges of the hundreds of letters were chosen from officials of women's organizations and editors of Canadian publications. Stories and photos in the press and a radio appearance of the winner grew out of the idea.

Winner was Mrs. E. J. Fulton, Toronto, who is shown about to fly to New York. In addition to the crew and hostess of the plane, Manager Stan Gosnell of the Uptown, Mrs. Fulton, her daughter Gwen and MGM's promotion representative, Dewey Bloom are shown in the photograph.

## Warners Purchase Stage Successes

With the objective of encouraging new playwrights and acting talent that will later be brought to the screen, Warner Brothers have allocated $250,000 for the financing of Broadway productions in the coming year. Negotiations are under way for several properties which are being considered for late spring production. The company is understood to be looking for a second Broadway legitimate house to add to the Biltmore, which they now operate in association with George Abbott.

Present Warner stage holdings include "Life With Father," "The Voice of the Turtle," "The Two Mrs. Carrolls" and "Wallflower."

## Repeat Regal Award In Appeal Court

The appeal from the judgment of the Chief Justice of the High Court, who awarded Regal Films $27,787.19 from the Glen Falls Insurance Company Limited, was lost by the latter concern before the Court of Appeal, Osgoode Hall, Toronto.

Regal Films had sued the insurance company to recover damages caused by fire in the Film Exchange Building in November,

## This Team Will Earn Big Money In Canada

James Mason, whose work in "The Seventh Veil" and other films made him one of Canada's newest top money stars, has been teamed with Joan Crawford, Academy Award winner, for the Skirball-Manning unit's production, "Portrait in Black."

Carol Reed will come over with Mason to direct the film, which will be distributed by Universal.

## Jackson Park Aims Distrib Jackpot

The Jackson Park Theatre, Chicago, which was awarded $360,000 from distributors for losses arising from their practices, now seeks an additonal $200,000 for decline of revenue during the long litigation.

## Special Award For Jack L. Warner

The Hollywood Foreign Correspondents Association, whose members syndicate film news throughout the world, will create a special award for Jeck L. Warner, vice-president of Warner Brothers, for his production of "Hitler Lives?"

It will presented along with the regular annual awards made by the association annually.

# Claxton Answers Duplessis Charge

Attack of Premier Duplessis of Quebec, supported by other house party leaders, on National Film Board subjects for allegedly presenting communistic ideas, had an echo in the House of Commons.

Frederic Dorion, Independent member from Quebec, asked:

**1. From November 1, 1929 to August 1, 1944, were any films produced by the National Film Board banned in the Province of Quebec for the reason they constituted communist propaganda? 2. If so, how many?**

The Hon. Brooke Claxton, KC, minister of national health and welfare and chairman of the NFB, replied:

**1 and 2. No, but, out of the five or six hundred films in the French and English languages issued by the national film board in Quebec since the board was established in 1939, one film was withheld from distribution in Quebec at the request of Quebec authorities. Neither this nor any film had any communistic propaganda but objection was taken to this film because of the picture presented of the Russian revolution. The film showed the fighting achievements of Russia at a time when Canadians were glad Russia was fighting on the same side we were on, and it was a definite function of the national film board to show what all our allies were doing. As the first function of the board under its act is to produce films "designed to help Canadians in all parts of Canada to understand the ways of living and the problems of Canadians in other parts," a very large number of films has been made about Quebec and its people and these have been distributed throughout Canada and in many parts of the world. Among many of the finest films produced are "Alexis Tremblay, Habitant," "Pays de Quebec," "Pays de mon Coeur," "Chercheurs de la Mer," "Vallee des Dynamos," and "Sept Peintres de Quebec." Even now films are being prepared to show the beauties and resources of the eastern townships and the Saguenay.**

## Horne Group To Sell Via United World?

United World Pictures may distribute films to be produced by Story Productions, which is headed by Hal Horne, Armand Deutsch and Nathan Levin.

The group's first feature will be "This Side of Innocence," which may go to UW, a Rank-Universal firm, as part of a package deal.

## Howard Batten Dead

A member of the board of directors of Shelly Films, Dr. W. Howard Batten, 52, president of Rapid Grip & Batten, passed away in Toronto last week.

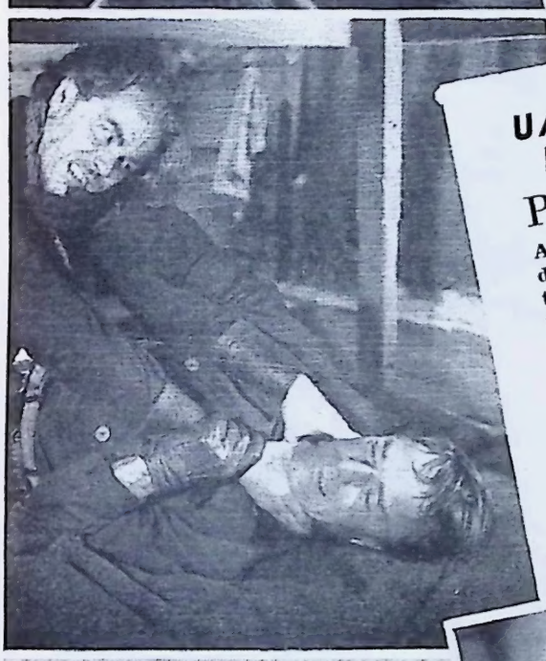
## Manitoba Shows Get Candy And Popcorn

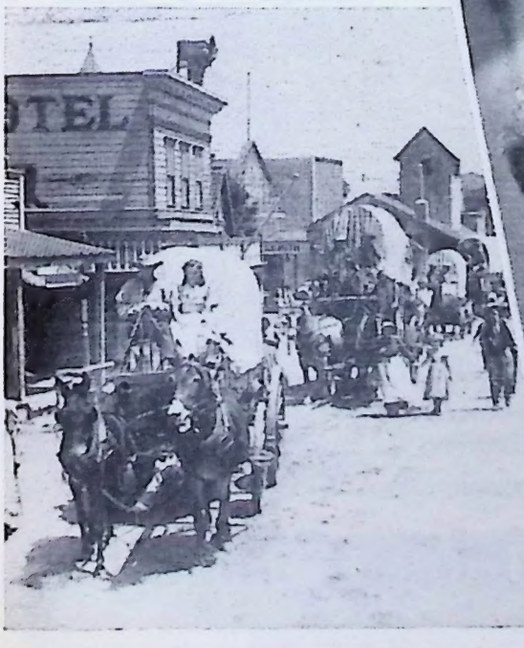
Mickey Tozman of Canadian Automatic Confection has returned from a trip through Manitoba, where he installed Viking popcorn machines and candy vendors in quite a few theatres. He installed 12 in Winnipeg, several in Saskatoon and other places.

## UA's 'Abilene Town' Punchy Western

PRODUCED by Jules Levey and distributed by United Artists, "Abilene Town" is deliberately and excellently tailored to the broadest public taste, with all the popular characters and situations reshuffled to provide just enough variation.

Randolph Scott, the poor man's Gary Cooper, is teamed with Ann Dvorak. They, with Edgar Buchanan and Rhonda Fleming and an assortment of bad men, keep things moving.





# so Very Funny...!

You'll love it with all your heart!
You'll live it with all your love!

JACK H. SKIRBALL · BRUCE MANNING
present

# Myrna Loy
# Don Ameche

A Country girl—who goes to town

A Brooklyn Lodger... who knew the town by hearts!

# So Goes My Love

A UNIVERSAL RELEASE

with
RHYS WILLIAMS BOBBY DRISCOLL RICHARD GAINES

Directed by FRANK RYAN Produced by JACK H. SKIRBALL

A JACK H. SKIRBALL-BRUCE MANNING Production • Screenplay by BRUCE MANNING and JAMES CLIFDEN
Based upon "A Genius in the Family" by Hiram Percy Maxim • Director of Photography: Joseph Valentine

**DISTRIBUTED BY** Empire-Universal-Films Limited